Claims

1. Use of a PPARα agonist for the manufacture of a medicament for treatment or prevention of HCV infection in a mammal.

2. A method of treating or preventing HCV infection in a mammalian subject comprising administration to that subject of a therapeutically effective amount of a PPARα agonist.

3. The method according to Claim 2 wherein the PPARα agonist is administered in combination with one or more therapeutic agents selected from interferon-α, pegylated interferon-α, ribavirin, a HCV NS3 protease inhibitor, a HCV polymerase inhibitor, anti-HCV antibodies and a HCV vaccine.

4. The use according to Claim 1 or the method according to Claim 2 or 3 wherein the mammal is a human.

5. A method of inhibiting entry of HCV to a cell comprising contacting said cell with a PPARα agonist.

6. The method according to Claim 5 wherein the cell is a hepatocyte.

7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a PPARα agonist and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier in combination with one or more therapeutic agents selected from interferon-α, pegylated interferon-α, ribavirin, a HCV NS3 protease inhibitor, a HCV polymerase inhibitor, anti-HCV antibodies and a HCV vaccine.

8. A kit comprising a PPARα agonist and one or more therapeutic agents selected from interferon-α, pegylated interferon-α, ribavirin, a HCV NS3 protease inhibitor, a HCV polymerase inhibitor, anti-HCV antibodies and a HCV vaccine, for simultaneous or sequential administration.

9. The use according to Claim 1 or 4, the method according to any one of Claims 2 to 6, the pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 7, or the kit according to Claim 8 wherein the PPARα agonist is a selective PPARα agonist.

10. The use according to Claim 1 or 4, the method according to any one of Claims 2 to 6, the pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 7, or the kit according to Claim 8 wherein the PPARα agonist is a PPAR α/γ dual agonist.

11. The use according to Claim 1 or 4, the method according to any one of Claims 2 to 6, the pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 7, or the kit according to Claim 8 wherein the PPARα agonist is fenofibrate, bezafibrate, ciprofibrate, gemfibrozil or MK-0767.